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Decorative Textile Fabrics

DRAPERIES FOR THE AUTUMN.

BY MRS. OLIVER BELL BUNCE.



IMPLICITY of style is the rule in good furnishings now-a-days. Draperies, hangings and curtains for walls, windows and doors should correspond, with patterns simple in design, harmonious in effect, without excessive trimming and ornamentation. For we all know that a simple cotton material will answer every purpose as an artistic scheme for any room and prove as

available as textures of richer make. This autumn the emporiums for household appointments for winter use are more brilliant than ever before, with colors more decided, finer in quality, of a choicer display, yet cheaper than in former seasons.

Every sort of texture is in fashion, from the quiet English chintz, which costs only fifteen cents a yard, to those richer satins and velours, which bring at least \$3.50 and upwards.

There are new satins, new silks, artistic tapestries, substantial hangings in canvas cloth and cords, jutes of fine designs, dainty crêpes of Japanese make, laces, nets, muslins, Swiss, chintz, and even cheap scrim. All of these vary in price, are fully suitable for any room, and in every apartment are a rule to themselves, where a charming ensemble is desired, and where tones, tints, hues, colors and general effect form the basis of a well-furnished house.

There are always in a large city a mass of people who desire a cosy home and are often at a loss to know what to purchase. Many a room has great possibilities, and yet it is really, after all, the draperies and hangings

that give character to its surroundings, making for the whole a livable place. According to its size, according to its form, according to the light that comes within should it be treated, and when all is completed an atmosphere will be secured.

The new goods which are shown us this autumn partake much of the English, whose forms are generally individual in style, with cleverness of design. We have those of French patterns and of Japanese devices; in fact, all sorts of stuffs, from the thinnest to the thickest, can be used in graceful lines if only taste and forethought are exercised.

For bedrooms we have the Normandy dimities in wide stripes, in various colors, for a decoration, a very small flower design, edged with a ribbon effect, a drapery

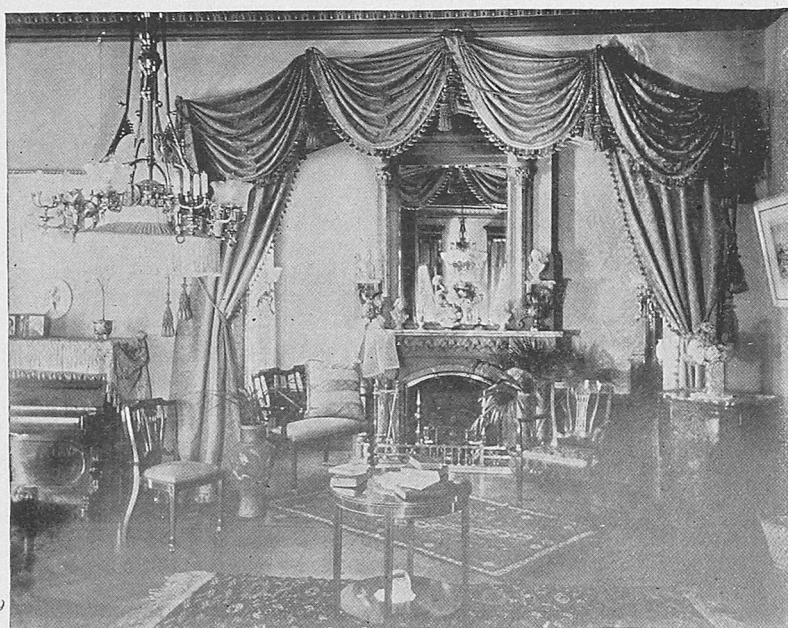
of good thickness, clean and sprightly and attractive, all at the low price of thirty cents a yard. These French affairs can be made to do duty to walls as well as windows and doors; also for bed canopies, dressing glasses, and even for the hiding of closet doors. They need no lining, will last some seasons, and can be renovated at will.

Next to this comes what is called the Liberty chintz. It is in various colors, but the prettiest is the blue, resembling somewhat the electric blue. For the walls there is a solid color, which is deliciously clean-looking. For draperies, a conven-

tional figure in lighter tones is made, which runs in graceful lines over the entire surface.

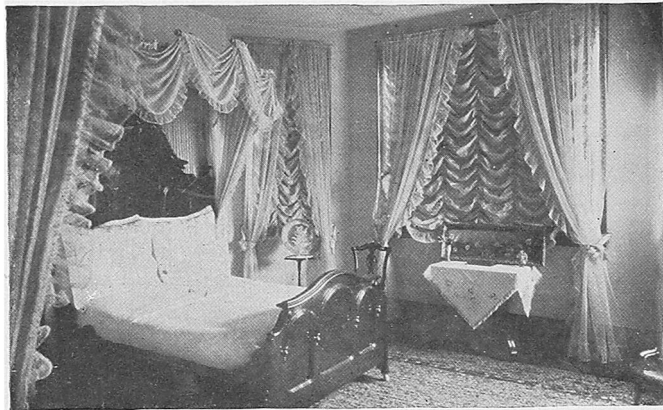
In any room this scheme would prove a boon. For are we not told that blue, of all the tints, acts on the nerves and produces for the physical state "a rest cure"? This drapery can be purchased from eighteen to twenty-five cents a yard.

Another delight has been offered us at a most reasonable sum, and that is the Cluny canvas, a jute material in tones of red, brown, green and gold. In this comes a plain surface, which will act as a wall covering as well



INTERIOR SHOWING SIMPLE DRAPERY TREATMENT FOR LARGE DOOR OPENING.

as a drapery, while with it, in this same material, is a cloth of good conventional design, in strong effects set off by complementary tints, with dark shading. This plan is admirable for libraries, drawing-rooms, halls, studies, or in any place where a certain dignity is to be maintained. It is thirty-six inches in width, and can be had for twenty-five cents a yard—a mere song for such an effective hanging. It can be poled unlined; still, all draperies of a jute texture are better with a muslin lining.



INTERIOR SHOWING SIMPLE DRAPERY TREATMENT OF WINDOWS AND BED.

Now, for years the Ko Be crêpe has been appreciated and very generally used, especially by people who revel in Japanese schemes. This fabric for hangings is most artistic. It gives a picturesque effect to small windows, makes a mantel-shelf a decorative bit, and does duty in a hundred ways, if desired. But this autumn the style varies in a way more decided, the quality is finer, the patterns more elaborate, the finish more striking, and only costs from fifty to sixty cents a yard.

As for novelties from the other side, there are two which are undeniably attractive. One is the Lattice cloth, a material which, although of cotton, presents almost a silken surface. It is very soft in color, pliable for folds, and is in tones of terra cotta and apple green. For this drapery there come certain wall papers, in stripes which would be very decorative. The Lattice cloth can be purchased for seventy-five cents a yard, and needs lining; yet for a portière it can be hung without. The other one is the Lotus cloth, which is a drapery rather fuzzy in appearance, of good body, in tones of medium green and rich leather color. As a hanging for a man's den, nothing could be finer, or for a studio where effects are the first consideration. It is reversible, and needs no lining, will fall in graceful folds when hung, and is cheap in price, bringing only seventy-five cents a yard.

With this comes the Windsor tapestry, another reversible fabric in colors of sage, a pure cotton material of good finish, the pattern being a flower in conventional design, cool in appearance, artistic as a whole, and will drape well for any room where green predominates, is of good width, and is eighty-five cents a yard, and quite reasonable at that price.

The decorators now declare that red has come to the front again, that red paper, red draperies, red furnishings of all tones, warmly blended, will be the winter fashion. Certain choice wall papers are in the market in bold conventional devices, and with them a Tangiers tapestry, a medley of choice tones in dull reds, yellows, light and dark browns, in formal designs. It is ninety

cents a yard, a capital window and door dressing for a library or living-room, a thoroughly artistic drapery, durable and stylish, will not soil quickly, and will wear for years.

Now for the dainty boudoir, the woman's den, or the pretty hall bedroom, or, better still, the company apartment, the Colonial cross stripe will be the leading cotton fabric. This is entirely new. This cotton stuff is in a soft shade of medium green, the cross stripes being in black, in three, clustered close together. They are remarkably clear in effect. The other is a blue, with cross stripes in white, edged with darker blue, a dainty affair for any room. With these comes a plain, solid material in the same green and blue, which can act as a wall covering. Both can be purchased for the cheap sum of sixty cents a yard.

Green still holds its own, as in the year past, but the yellow-green this autumn has made an artistic plunge, and so we have now the Arras cloth, a fine combination of stripes in dark and yellow green, which by the artists have been specially favored. It is beyond doubt a clever reproduction of draperies of the olden times. As a hanging it is most effective, very simple in treatment, in hues irregular and effective.

But as we ascend the scale in prices of course richer stuffs present themselves to our view. All these range from \$1.00 to \$3.50, and are really the swell draperies for the coming cold weather. The lowest in price is the Gondola stripe, which is cheap at \$1.00 a yard. Although this is only a cotton material, it has all the charm of a silk velour. It is of the superb new red, which is of a tone near the old-fashioned magenta. These stripes are wide, in two shades—a dark and light—and can be purchased in red, a beautiful blue and a grass-green.

It is a marvel of rich tones when hung, and, more than that, is reversible, which adds to its economy.

Then there are two others, a trifle higher in price—one an Algerian stripe, in which various tints are the scheme, the pattern outlined in gold thread. This curtain is Oriental in aspect, a capital decoration for a Moorish room, in all its Eastern qualities. Every tone and tint is well depicted, and at the low sum of \$1.25 a yard. It is fifty-four inches wide, could be used as a reversible drapery, and when hung will give splendid satisfaction.

A Colonial tapestry has now made its appearance on the market. This drapery is of a dark blue, in which a white conventional design is the treatment. For a blue room it would be a charm. Either side will do—in fact, there is no choice, so beautiful is it in texture. This pretty affair is really only \$1.00 a yard.

To those lovers of green the Arno cord is a find. It consists of two wide pronounced stripes—one a dark, rich green in corduroy, the other a diagonal very felt-like in quality—and would furnish a library excellently well, would do not only for portières and windows, but the covering for furniture, and costs but \$1.50 a yard.

Of course there are higher grades in upholsteries, which, if one wants to be in the style and swim of fash-



NEAT AND INEXPENSIVE.

ionable furnishing, one must pay. Among the lowest is the Cluny canvas, a rather theatrical affair, elegant for scenic displays, but rather gaudy for a private house, and if selected should be sparingly used in any place. Yet it is very effective, and to many it would be sanctioned as an artistic furnisher, the cost being \$2.00 a yard. It is really a jute, and when gilt is added it becomes a question as to durability.

This season there are a number of expensive hangings which, for choice colorings, delectable patterns and artistic schemes, this autumn should take the prize in good decoration. Among these are the Velour de Guise, a rich cloth in terra cotta. It is heavy like velours, requires no lining, and will adorn well, is striking in character and durable for wear.

As a scheme in the "new red" a tapestry has been on the market called the Pomegranate cloth. On a cream background is the fruit and leaves well defined and artistically treated in conventional form. This drapery is reversible, a good fact in the long run. Where strong color effects are needed, this cloth is most desirable. A fine furnishing at \$2.50 a yard, and well worth it.

Among the thinner draperies, and yet not flimsy in appearance, is a pretty texture known as Jaffa tapestry. It has a background of rich dark blue, blended delicately with grey in narrow lines. Over this, a tracery in browns, with a red conventional blossom for color. This pretty, effective and artistic window dressing is valued at \$2.50 a yard.

At all times Liberty velvets are on hand. But this autumn they are more popular than ever. Those in yellow are particularly charming. They can be procured in solid colors and in flower effects in lighter shades. Even with these goods whose beauty renders them salable at all the four seasons, new designs are given each year, so they become, with the rest, a decorative novelty to the shopper, who is looking out for something novel and taking.

With all these schemes of thicker fabrics that present themselves every season, the dainty Swiss and lace will always have a share in household decoration. This fall there is a wonderfully charming muslin called the Penang. It is of thin Swiss, with a design in soft colors in pinks, light blues, delicate lemons. These designs are in vines, blossoms, buds, and good conventional flowers well scattered over the entire surface. There are prints which are known as the Gossamer and

Liberty; there are charming laces, nets, tambour muslin, all sorts of thin white effects, which can be obtained at low prices, and which, when hung by a gilt rod and looped back with satin ribbons, make a charming show. For the opportunity to inspect these fabrics with their wall papers to harmonize, acknowledgments are due to Messrs. Joseph M. McHugh & Co., Forty-second Street, west, at Fifth Avenue, New York.

DECORATIVE MOTTOES.

BY ALICE M. KELLOGG.

THE essence of appropriateness is the measure of the correct use of decorative mottoes. The combined resources of the family need to be called into requisition in their selection. If the choice appears

doubtful, a temporary placing of the motto should be given before it is affixed finally.

For a motto over the fireplace of a sitting-room, the special abiding-place of the *lares* and *penates*, one is safe in using, "East and west, Home's the best."

In a minister's study the text, "While I was musing the fire burned," was set into the bricks of the hearth-stones.

The following lines I have seen painted in gold upon parchment, framed and hung near the open fire of a library:—

"Old wood to burn;
Old wine to drink;
Old books to read;
Old friends to trust."

An artist inserted the recently-written verse by Bliss Carman in a panel of his studio

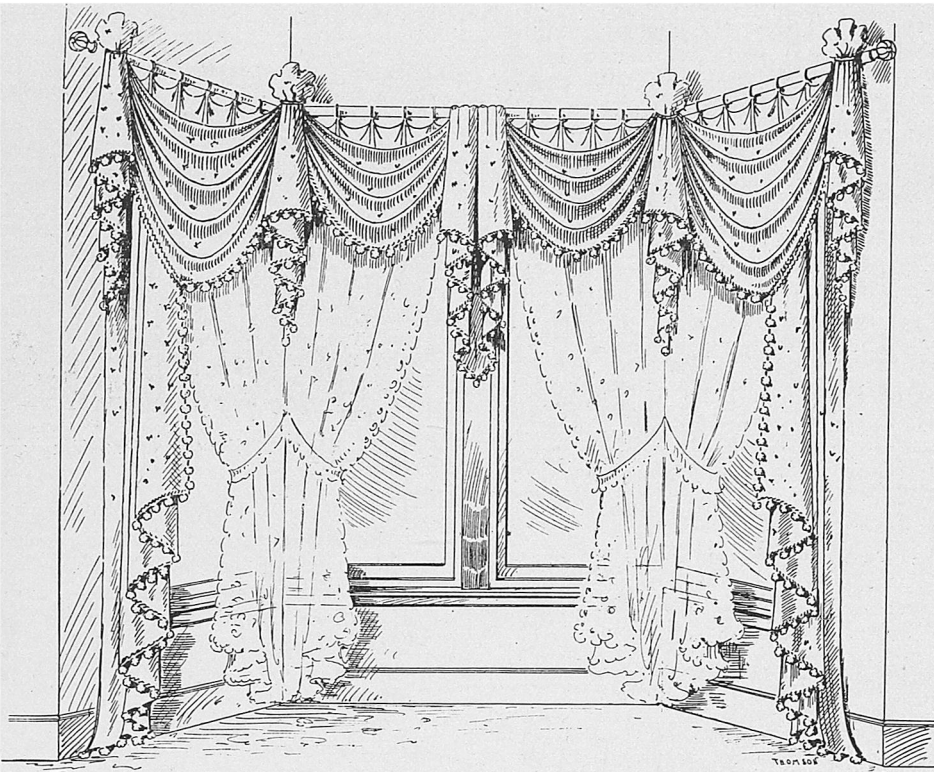
door, painting the letters with old blue on a strip of crayon paper and pinning it into place:—

"Have little care that life is brief,
And less that Art is long;
Success is in the silences,
Tho' fame is in the song."

A birthday motto that was given to twin sisters was framed in enamel forget-me-nots, and hung between their beds:—

"No anger or resentment know,
Whatever is amiss;
Be reconciled before you sleep,
And seal it with a kiss."

Burnt-wood lettering, with its artistic background, is as durable a form as a motto can be clothed in; but simpler devices may be resorted to—stencilling on cartridge paper, painting with metallic, water or oil colors, or cutting the letters from gilt and fancy papers.



NEAT AND EFFECTIVE BAY WINDOW TREATMENT. DESIGNED BY JAMES THOMSON.